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August 17, 2015

Chairman Tom Wheeler
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization, WC Docket No. 11-42,
Telecommunications Carriers Eligible for Universal Service Support, WC Docket
No. 09-197, Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

As this state and our country continue to recover from the economic recession, I would like to highlight the important role programs like Lifeline have played in helping low-income Americans overcome unemployment and other financial obstacles. Lifeline ensures that all Americans have access to vital communications services that are meant to connect them to employers, family, healthcare and help in emergency cases. The Federal Communications Commission has done a remarkable job maintaining and updating the program since it was implemented over three decades ago.

I wholeheartedly support the FCC's proposal to modernize Lifeline and make it more effective for the 21st Century. It is extremely important for underprivileged households to have access to telecommunications services that are offered to all citizens, allowing them to be competitive in the job market and work on advancing their education. Broadband is one of these services. I am in favor of expanding Lifeline to provide broadband, but not at the expense of traditional phone services. Please apply the current economic model to an expanded Lifeline service.

I appreciate you considering my concerns and look forward to seeing the modernization of the Lifeline program.

Sincerely,

Biff Traber
Mayor

cc: Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner Ajit Pai
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly